

February 10, 1976

were shared with the State Department of Education. There was agreement that the amendments were good and that they are an improvement on the bill, that they simplified some of the procedures, that they clarified some of the questions that some of the school districts had. They made it clear that it applied to just elementary and secondary students. They removed some of the processes with regard to the hearing examiner. It simply clarified some of the procedures and simplifies the bill. I would suggest that no matter what is your overall philosophy on this bill that you should vote for these amendments to make it more acceptable for everyone.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Senator Fowler's amendment. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. We have had some groups in the Chamber this morning. Some of whom have left during this last debate, but in the North balcony we have had 50 fifth and sixth graders from elementary schools here in Lincoln from Senator Barnett's District. We have also had third and fourth grade students from the Lincoln Christian School. Miss Betty Peterson, the teacher, North balcony, that is from Senator Marsh's District, and we also have 75 Nebraska State PTA leaders in the South balcony from Senator Carsten's District. So we appreciate having all of you groups here. Thank you very much for coming.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion is by Senator Fowler. On page 16, line 11 strike "and to arrive at its decision" and insert. Signed Senator Fowler. Insert a (.).

PRESIDENT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: This particular amendment simply makes it clear that the bill is in compliance with the state's open meetings law. The language previously said that the school board during an appeal to the school board could retire and discuss the case and arrive at its decision. Clearly, the open meetings law does allow the school board to discuss the matter in private but they must arrive at their decision in public, so it is simply to strike that phrase "and arrive at its decision." It is simply to bring the bill into compliance with the bill we passed last year, the open meetings law.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the adoption of Senator Fowler's amendment. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion to amend is, I move to amend the Committee amendment, section 18, page 12, line 3, strike "shall" and insert "may". Signed Senator Chambers.